

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. A terminal disclaimer with respect to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/800,408 is submitted herewith. Applicant believes the terminal disclaimer overcomes the rejection. Applicant does not concede the correctness of the rejection.

As all issues raised in the Office Action are now addressed, Applicant believes that all pending claims are likewise in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicant references a communication filed herewith, wherein it is pointed out that four commonly assigned applications are copending with the claimed invention. These copending applications are: 09/799,900, 09/800,409, 09/800,215, and 09/800,408. Copies of the specifications, claims, and drawings for these copending applications are submitted with the communication in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 (2) (iii).

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's primary attorney-of-record, Michael D. Schumann (Reg. No 30,422) at (612) 336-4638.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 15, 2001

MDS/JAL/MLL

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